What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:

    receiving, at a subscriber interface line card, an analog signal from a POTS subscriber loop circuit;

    quantizing the analog signal into a plurality of digital samples;

encoding, via high-quality audio codec instructions running on a digital signal processor installed on the subscriber interface line card, the plurality of digital samples; and

    converting, via conversion instructions running on the digital signal processor, the encoded plurality of digital samples into a plurality of VoATM packets.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the high-quality audio codec instructions are compatible with G.722.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the high-quality audio codec instructions are compatible with ITU G series codecs.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the high-quality audio codec instructions are compatible with Dolby Digital AC-3.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the high-quality audio codec instructions are compatible with DTS.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said encoding encodes multiple channel audio.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

    automatically substituting PCM codec instructions for the high-quality audio codec instructions when a far-end CPE does not have high-quality audio codec capability.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically substituting alternative high-quality audio codec instructions for the high-quality audio codec instructions.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically substituting alternative high-quality audio codec instructions for the high-quality audio codec instructions based on a capability of a far-end CPE.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically substituting alternative high-quality audio codec instructions for the high-quality audio codec instructions based on a capability of a far-end CPE's subscriber interface line card.

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically substituting alternative high-quality audio codec instructions for the high-quality audio codec instructions based on a capability of a network coupled to the subscriber interface line card.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically substituting POTS audio codec instructions for the high-quality audio codec instructions.

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically substituting POTS audio codec instructions for the high-quality audio codec instructions based on a capability of a a far-end CPE or subscriber interface line card.

14. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

signaling between the subscriber interface line card and a far-end subscriber interface line card.

15. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

signaling between the subscriber interface line card and a far-end CPE.

16. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

obtaining a capability of a far-end subscriber interface line card or CPE.

17. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing a capability of the subscriber interface line card to a far-end subscriber interface line card or CPE.

18. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

exchanging capability information with a far-end subscriber interface line card or CPE.

19. A machine-readable medium storing instructions for activities comprising:

receiving, at a subscriber interface line card, an analog signal from a POTS subscriber loop circuit;

quantizing the analog signal into a plurality of digital samples;

encoding, via high-quality audio codec instructions running on a digital signal processor installed on the subscriber interface line card, the plurality of digital samples; and

converting, via conversion instructions running on the digital signal processor, the encoded plurality of digital samples into a plurality of VoATM packets.

20. A system, comprising:

a POTS subscriber interface line card adapted to receive an analog signal from a POTS subscriber loop circuit and quantize the analog signal into a plurality of digital samples;

high-quality audio codec installed on the subscriber interface line card, adapted to run on a digital signal processor coupled to the POTS subscriber interface line card, and adapted to encode the the plurality of digital samples; and

a converter installed on the subscriber interface line card and adapted to convert the encoded plurality of digital samples into a plurality of VoATM packets.